

STATE OF INDIANA



INDIANA UTILITY REGULATORY COMMISSION
302 W. WASHINGTON STREET, SUITE E-306
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46204-2764

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FILED

DEC 21 2004

INDIANA UTILITY
REGULATORY COMMISSION
CAUSE NO. 40342

IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF)
NORTHERN INDIANA PUBLIC SERVICE)
COMPANY FOR APPROVAL OF A)
NATURAL GAS ALTERNATIVE)
REGULATORY PLAN PURSUANT TO)
IND. CODE 8-1-2.5-1, ET. SEQ. AND)
EXPERIMENTAL EFFECTIVENESS OF)
NEW GAS RATE 330, LARGE VOLUME)
NEGOTIATED SALES SERVICE.)

You are hereby notified that on this date, the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission has caused the following entry to be made:

On October 12, 2004, Northern Indiana Public Service Company ("Petitioner" or "NIPSCO") filed a *Stipulation and Settlement Agreement* reopening this cause. On December 16, 2004, an attorney's conference was held to discuss a procedural schedule to be utilized in this cause. As a result of an agreement, the presiding officers now find that the following procedural schedule should be approved:

1. **Petitioner's Prefiling Date.** The Petitioner should prefile with the Commission its prepared testimony and exhibits constituting its case-in-chief on or before December 22, 2004. Copies of same should be served upon all parties of record.
2. **Public's and Intervenors' Prefiling Date.** Public and all Intervenors should prefile with the Commission the prepared testimony and exhibits constituting their respective cases-in-chief on or before January 7, 2005. Copies of same should be served upon all parties of record.
3. **Petitioner's Rebuttal Prefiling.** The Petitioner should prefile with the Commission its prepared rebuttal testimony on or before January 11, 2005. Copies of same should be served upon all parties of record.
4. **Evidentiary Hearing on the Parties' Cases-In-Chief.** The cases-in-chief of the Petitioner, Public and any Intervenors should be presented in an evidentiary hearing to commence at 3:00 p.m. on January 13, 2005 in Room E-306, Law Library, of the Indiana Government Center South, Indianapolis, Indiana.

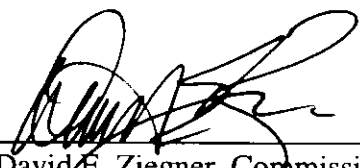
5. **Discovery.** Discovery is available for all parties and should be conducted on an informal basis. Any response or objection to a discovery request should be made within ten (10) calendar days of the receipt of such request.

6. **Number of Copies/Corrections.** With the exception of work papers, the parties should file with the Commission an original and five (5) copies of all prefiled testimony and exhibits. Any corrections to prefiled testimony should be made in writing as soon as possible after discovery of the need to make such corrections. Although the Commission's rules require that original copies be one-sided, it is the Commission's preference that duplicate copies use both sides of the paper.

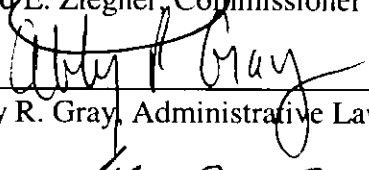
7. **Intervenors.** Any party permitted to become an Intervenor in this Cause should be bound by the record as it stands at the time its Petition to Intervene is granted, pursuant to 170 IAC 1-1.1-11.

The parties are also hereby on notice that Mr. Jerry Webb and Mr. Paul Neman will be designated as testimonial staff.

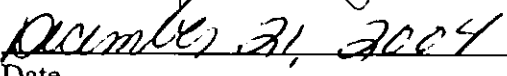
IT IS SO ORDERED.



David E. Ziegner, Commissioner



Abby R. Gray, Administrative Law Judge



Date